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**NEWS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Chief Donald De Lucca reports a drop in crime in Miami Beach**

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Miami Beach- Chief Donald De Lucca announced today the crime rate in Miami Beach continues to drop. The crime rate for 2005 dropped **10.89%** in comparison with 2004.

Violent Crimes, which include Homicide, Rape, Robbery and Aggravated Assault, were down 7.3% in 2005 as compared to 2004. Property Crimes, which include Burglary, Larceny, and Auto Theft, was down 11.2% in 2005 as compared to 2004.

Most impressively is the fact that Part 1 crime is down over 25% in 2005 as compared to the year 2000.

Crimes such as Homicide and Motor Vehicle Thefts reflected a reduction of 62.5% and a 20.2% respectively, as compared to the 2004 figures. Other crimes such as Robbery, Burglary, Larceny and Aggravated Assault, showed a substantial reduction as well.

Chief De Lucca attributed these favorable numbers to the partnership and cooperation that has existed between our residents', businesses, elected officials, city administrators, as well as the hard work by the men and women of the Miami Beach Police Department. Through the commitment and dedication of the officers of the Miami Beach Police Department several proactive initiatives to combat crime were initiated during the year including:

- The Quality of Life Initiative
- The creation of a 4<sup>th</sup> shift of Bicycle Officers which works during the busiest times of the evening
- The creation of the Special Events Voluntary Response Team which supplement our regular staffing during event and holiday weekends.
- The **Getting Robbers In Progress** (GRIP) detail which targeted robberies based on crime analysis information.
- Increased use of crime analysis to better utilize resources to address crime trends